GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:8027
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
GAS/OIL PIPELINE BETWEEN IRAN AND INDIA
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has given permission for the laying of gas/oil pipeline between Iran and India via that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the cost of the project; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) Following the signing of an MOU between India and Iran in November 1993, it was agreed that a pre-feasibility study on transmission of Iranian natural gas to India through a pipeline would be prepared by an internationallyrenowned and reputed engineering consultancy firm. Accordingly, the contract for the feasibility study was awarded by the Joint Working Group set up for this purpose to M/s. PLE of Germany in 1995.The pipeline feasibility route comprised of an onland section within the territory of Iran and an offshore section outside the territorial waters of Pakistan to India. Despite repeated attempts by this company the Government of Pakistan did not grant permission for survey through Pakistan`s EEZ.In these circumstances, the contract for the feasibility study had to be terminated.

(c) & (d) Does not arise.